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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 6892nd meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 December 2012, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Timor-Leste", the President of the Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"As the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) completes its mandate on 31 December 2012, the Security Council commends the remarkable achievements made by Timor-Leste over the past decade as well as its contribution to important regional and global initiatives.

"The Security Council welcomes the considerable progress that has been made by Timor-Leste in strengthening institutional and human resources capacities of State institutions, including in the security, justice and governance sectors which play crucial roles in safeguarding stability and promoting democracy.

"The Security Council also welcomes the successful presidential and parliamentary elections conducted in 2012 which have helped to consolidate Timor-Leste's democratic institutions.

"The Security Council recognises the important contribution of UNMIT in promoting peace, stability and development in Timor-Leste, including through its work to strengthen the capacity of the Policia Nacional de Timor-Leste (PNTL). The Security Council expresses its appreciation for the efforts of the Mission and the United Nations Country Team, under the leadership of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General.

"The Security Council applauds the Government and all Timorese for their steadfast collaboration and partnership with UNMIT and the United Nations Country Team since the Mission's establishment, including during the jointly-owned transition process which reinforced inter alia, the principle of national ownership to the benefit of all and could serve as a model of joint collaboration for other missions.

"The Security Council notes that the Government of Timor-Leste has indicated that the United Nations will continue to be an important partner in the new phase of the development of the nation. The Security Council therefore welcomes the ongoing engagement of the Secretary-General and United Nations Country Team in support of the efforts of the Government of Timor-Leste as it seeks to preserve and consolidate its peacebuilding gains and

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in order to promote sustainable development, the rule of law and the strengthening of human rights institutions, as well as tackle other remaining challenges.

"The Security Council underscores the importance of continued support to Timor-Leste as it embarks on the next stage of its development, beyond UNMIT, and notes the willingness of the United Nations and bilateral and multilateral partners to continue, as requested by the Timorese authorities, to play a significant role in this regard."